appraisal of this project has been undertaken by the PIB in its meeting held on 9.7.99. The project is being processed for taking a final investment decision, taking into account the observations of the PIB regarding the viability of the project, desirability of encouraging use of LNG as feedstock to reduce the incidence of subsidy and the need to stagger the implementation of the proposed projects due to limited demand supply gap forecasts.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The economic viability of setting up a new fertilizer plant at any location in the country depends on several factors like cost of feedstock, demand supply gap for the product, capital cost in comparison to cost at alternate locations, etc. saving in transportation costs is only one of the factors which influence the project's viability.

Operational cost of production of fertilizer/ urea in private sector

†5026. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operational cost of production of fertilizer/urea in private sector is more in comparison to the public sector;

(b) if so, the separate details thereof; and

(c) the positive steps proposed to be taken in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) Urea, being the only fertililzer under statutory price, distribution and movement control, is covered under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS). Under RPS, the retention prices are fixed unit- wise having regard to it combination of norms and actuals of various cost elements. Operational cost of production of urea units differs from unit to unit and even from month to month, depending inter-alia upon the health and vintage of the plant, the feedstock used, the levels of capacity utilization, specific consumptions, and cost of inputs and is not related to the unit being in private or in public sector. However, the break-up of retention prices of all urea manufacturing units in public sector, cooperative sector and private sector as on 1-1-2000 (ad-hoc notified) are given in statement.

†Original notice of Question was received in Hindi.

STATEMENT

Break-up of retention prices as on 1-1-2000 *of various urea manufacturing units*

S. No.	Company-unit	Variable cost	Conversion cost including Selling Exp.	CRC including Dep.	Retention price notified*
1	2	3	4	5	6
Feedstock: Gas					
1	GSFC-Baroda	7964	1147	646	9757
2	HFC-Namrup III	1669	738	1670	4077
3	HFC-Namrup I & II	1702	1147	733	3582
4	IFFCO-Aonla	2935	613	1756	5304
5	IFFCO-Aonla Exp.	2442	508	3399	6349
6	IFFCO-Kalol	5164	608	994	6766
7	INDOGULF-Jagdishpur	3396	764	1883	6043
8	KRIBHCO-Hazira	3027	589	1205	4821
9	NFL-Vijaipur	3217	505	1477	5199
10	NFL-Vijaipur Exp.	2628	480	3442	6550
11	NFCL-Kakinada	2079	1218	4790	8087
12	RCF-Thal	3259	722	1233	5214
13	RCF-Trombay-V	4244	855	573	5672
14	CFCL-Kota	3317	699	3727	7743
15	TATA Chemicals	3420	814	3763	7997
16	OCFL	3438	726	3727	7891
Feedstock: Naphtha					
1	FACT-Cochin	12539	1016	536	14090
2	HFC-Barauni	13685	1708	1329	16722
3	HFC Durgapur	11820	1718	825	14363
4	ICI-Kanpur	10492	1128	526	12146
5	IFFCO-Phulpur	8825	913	1075	10813
6	IFFCO-Phulpur-II	7768	535	3697	12000
7	MCFL-Mangalore	10288	1053	695	12036
8	MFL-Madras	12522	1337	450	14309
9	SFC-Kota	8862	1252	378	10492
10	SPIC-Tuticorin	10602	1272	599	12473
11	NFCL II-Kakinada	5325	842	4015	10182
12	ZACL-Goa	12097	972	408	13477

Feedstock: FO/LSHS					
1	FCI-Sindri	7984	1218	445	9647
2	GNFC-Bharuch	5768	788	1077	7633
3	NLC-Neyveli	8690	2093	425	11208
4	NFL-Nangal	8620	1039	363	10022
5	NFL-Bhatinda	8369	1138	1003	10510
6	NFL-Panipat	7779	1051	877	9707
Feedstock: Coal					
1	FCI-Ramagundam	9290	1221	735	11246
2	FCI-Talcher	8440	1383	848	10671

*Ad-hoc retention price.

Prototypes for insect-resistant cotton etc.

5027. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Chemical Laboratory has evolved prototypes of developing insect-resistant cotton, chickpea, pigeonpea and black pepper through gene transfer technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the results achieved at the field trials;

(c) whether Government have received complaints from various parts of the country of damage of cotton crop due to inferior quality pesticides;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures proposed by Government to provide compensation to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) The National Chemical Laboratory has evolved protocols for in vitro regeneration of various explants of cotton as apical meristem, shoot tip and cotyledonary node from in vitro grown seedlings of various Indian cotton cultivers. Regeneration of cotton explants fulfils the major pre-requisite for transformation studies, which in turn, after further refinement, may be utilized for incorporation of insect resistant genes. In chickpea and pigeon pea, transformation protocols for regeneration for various explants of cultivated and wild varities have been